

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A video camera apparatus for capturing video and still images as frames, the apparatus comprising:

a solid image sensor having an electronic shutter for outputting an ~~image-sensing~~image sensing signal in a progressive scan mode, said solid image sensor including a plurality of pixel sensors configured to process charges accumulated on the pixel sensors as the ~~image-sensing~~image sensing signal,

wherein, in said progressive scan mode, the charges accumulated and stored for a first field of a particular frame are discharged before the charges accumulated for a second field of the particular frame are stored, and

wherein the stored charges of the second field are read out in next two fields of a subsequent frame; and

drive control means for controlling the electronic shutter of the solid image sensor at a field cycle of a standard television system used as a basic cycle, thereby to output the image sensing signal from the solid image sensor in the progressive scan mode; and

encoding means for encoding the image sensing signal outputted from the solid image sensor; and

memory means for recording the image sensing signal ~~which is encoded~~ by said encoding means,

wherein, when an image is captured for generating a still image that is recorded on said memory means, the progressive scan mode is forcedly set.

2. (Currently Amended) An image sensing method comprising steps of:

controlling an electronic shutter of a solid image sensor which outputs an image sensing signal in a progressive scan mode at a field cycle of a standard television system used as a basic cycle, said solid image sensor including a plurality of pixel sensors;

processing charges accumulated on said plurality of pixel sensors as the ~~image-sensing~~image sensing signal including: in said progressive scan mode, discharging the charges accumulated and stored for a first field of a particular frame before storing the charges accumulated for a second field of the particular frame; and reading out the stored charges of the second field in next two fields of a subsequent frame; and

outputting the image sensing signal from the solid image sensor in the progressive scan mode, and

encoding the image sensing signal outputted from the solid image sensor; and

recording the encoded image sensing signal ~~which is encoded by said encoding means,~~

wherein, when an image is captured for generating a still image that is recorded, the progressive scan mode is forcedly set.

3. (Currently Amended) A video camera apparatus for capturing video and

still images as frames, the apparatus comprising:

a solid image sensor having an electronic shutter for outputting an image sensing signal in an interlace scan mode or a progressive scan mode, said solid image sensor including a

plurality of pixel sensors configured to process charges accumulated on the pixel sensors as the ~~image-sensing~~image sensing signal,

wherein, in said progressive scan mode, the charges accumulated and stored for a first field of a particular frame are discharged before the charges accumulated for a second field of the particular frame are stored, and wherein the stored charges of the second field are read out in next two fields of a subsequent frame;

control means for controlling the electronic shutter such that a shutter speed in the progressive scan mode is equal to a shutter speed in the interlace scan mode; and

output means for outputting the image sensing signal in the progressive scan mode, based on the shutter speed; and

encoding means for encoding the image sensing signal outputted from the solid image sensor; and

memory means for recording the image sensing signal ~~which is encoded~~ by said encoding means,

wherein, when an image is captured for generating a still image that is recorded on said memory means, the progressive scan mode is forcedly set.

4. (Currently Amended) An image sensing method comprising steps of:

controlling an electronic shutter of a solid image sensor which outputs an image sensing signal in an interlace scan mode or a progressive scan mode, such that a shutter speed in the progressive scan mode is equal to a shutter speed in the interlace scan mode, said solid image sensor including a plurality of pixel sensors; processing charges accumulated on said plurality of pixel sensors as the ~~image-sensing~~image sensing signal including: in said progressive scan mode,

discharging the charges accumulated and stored for a first field of a particular frame before storing the charges accumulated for a second field of the particular frame; and reading out the stored charges of the second field in next two fields of a subsequent frame; and

outputting the image sensing signal from the solid image sensor in the progressive scan mode; and

encoding the image sensing signal outputted from the solid image sensor; and

recording the encoded image sensing signal ~~which is encoded by said encoding means,~~

wherein, when an image is captured for generating a still image that is recorded ~~on said memory means,~~ the progressive scan mode is forcedly set

5. (Currently Amended) An image sensing signal recording apparatus for recording video and still images as frames, the apparatus comprising:

a solid image sensor having an electronic shutter, for outputting an ~~image-sensing~~image sensing signal in a progressive scan mode, said solid image sensor including a plurality of pixel sensors configured to process charges accumulated on the pixel sensors as the ~~image-sensing~~image sensing signal,

wherein, in said progressive scan mode, the charges accumulated and stored for a first field of a particular frame are discharged before the charges accumulated for a second field of the particular frame are stored, and

wherein the stored charges of the second field are read out in next two fields of a subsequent frame; drive control means for controlling the electronic shutter of the solid image sensor at a field cycle of a standard television system used as a basic cycle;

scan converter means for converting the image sensing signal based on progressive scanning, into an interlace scan signal; and

recording means for recording the image sensing signal based on progressive scanning, or the image sensing signal converted into the interlace scan signal; and

encoding means for encoding the image sensing signal outputted from the solid image sensor; and

memory means for recording the image sensing signal ~~which is encoded~~ by said encoding means,

wherein, when an image is captured for generating a still image that is recorded on said memory means, the progressive scan mode is forcedly set.

6. (Currently Amended) An image sensing signal recording method comprising steps of:

controlling an electronic shutter of a solid image sensor which outputs an image sensing signal in a progressive scan mode at a field cycle of a standard television system used as a basic cycle, said solid image sensor including a plurality of pixel sensors;

processing charges accumulated on said plurality of pixel sensors as the ~~image-~~image sensing signal including: in said progressive scan mode, discharging the charges accumulated and stored for a first field of a particular frame before storing the charges accumulated for a second field of the particular frame; and reading out the stored charges of the second field in next two fields of a subsequent frame; and

outputting the image sensing signal from the solid image sensor in the progressive scan mode,

converting the image sensing signal into an interlace scan signal; and
recording the interlace scan signal or a progressive scan signal; and
encoding the image sensing signal outputted from the solid image sensor; and
recording the encoded image sensing signal ~~which is encoded by said encoding means,~~
wherein, when an image is captured for generating a still image that is recorded ~~on said~~
~~memory means,~~ the progressive scan mode is forcedly set.

7. - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The video camera according to claim 1, wherein the
encoding means encodes the image sensing signal according to JPEG (Joint Photographic Expert
Group) standard.

10. (Previously Presented) The video camera according to claim 1, wherein the
memory means is a removable memory.